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Romulus voters approve casino, racetrack

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Romulus voters have chosen to have both a racetrack and casino in their city.

Unofficial results of the special election Tuesday indicated the casino was approved by a margin of 668 votes and the racetrack by a margin of 321 votes. The election saw a larger voter turnout than the last mayoral election.

Results of the election say 2,664 votes in favor of the racetrack and 2,343 against the facility. Yes votes for the casino totaled 2,879 while 2,211 no votes were cast.

In the two months since the special election was first announced, campaigns for both the casino and racetrack have been ongoing strong throughout the community.

Casino representatives said they have spent about \$60,000 on the campaign, while the racetrack has spent close to \$100,000 on their "Vote Yes on 2" campaign.

At a victory party at the Best Western in Romulus, representatives of the casino said they were very pleased with the outcome of the campaign and the vote.

"We feel terrific," said Steve Mitchell, a representative for the casino. "When you start off behind and then come out ahead it is a great feeling."

Mayor Alan Lambert, who has been vocal in his support for the proposed casino, attended the party at the Best Western.

"This is going to be a catalyst for the City of Romulus," he said. I believe that it is going to bring along with it the shopping development we have been looking for, not to

mention restaurants."

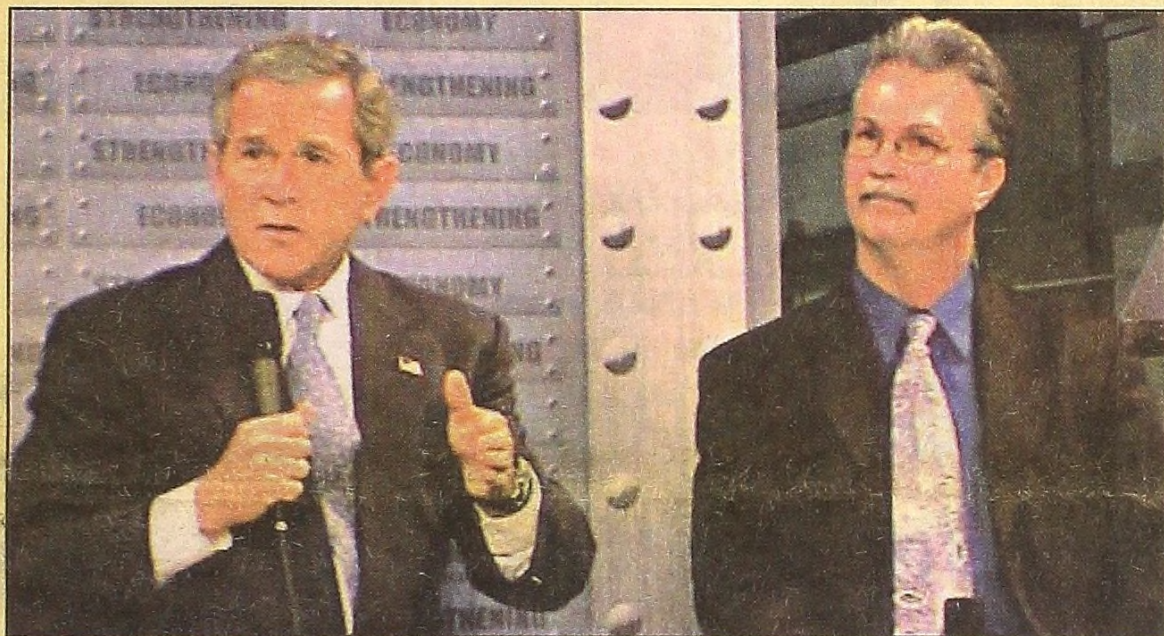
"The mayor showed a lot of courage in coming out in support of the casino," said Mitchell. "It is very rare that you actually see leaders, lead."

Romulus residents also made their way to the casino victory party to celebrate what they said they perceived to be the start of something big in the city.

"I want to see other business developments come to Romulus and I think the casino can make that happen," said Aaron Turner. "This is the start of something big."

The Sault St. Marie Chippewa Indian tribe has proposed a \$350 million casino, conference center, golf course and hotel, which representatives said would bring

See **Vote**, page 3



President George W. Bush took time out from a recent fundraising trip to talk about the economy and other national issues in Canton Township. Loren Epler (right), head of Dynamic Metal, Inc. in Canton, welcomed him to his metal-treating shop.

President brings campaign to Canton

Scott Spielman
Editor

Founded in 1974, Dynamic Metal Treating, Inc., provides a snapshot of the economy of the nation.

That's what President George W. Bush said when he stopped by the Canton Township shop for a visit Monday afternoon.

Bush, jovial and fresh from a \$2,000 a plate fundraiser, visited at the small metal treating plant to talk with workers and the owners of the firm and to tout the rebounding American economy.

Framed by imitation steel girders emblazoned with the logo Strengthening America's Economy, the President said he firmly believes the economy will rebound.

"When you think about what we've been through in the past three years, we've overcome a lot," he told the crowd of assembled well-wishers and factory workers.

The Canton firm followed a

model of many other firms in the past three years, according to Loren Epler, who owns the business. The firm grew steadily, thanks to many innovations, throughout the 1970s and 1980s, culminating in 2000, when the industry took a hit.

"We made a lot of cuts, we laid off four or five people," Epler said. "We're on the way back now, though."

The firm will invest another \$300,000 into the plant in the form of new technology, he said.

Bush said it was a sign that the economy would rebound in Michigan, which has lagged behind the remainder of the country. More than 180,000 jobs have been lost since the summer of 2003, and the manufacturing industry is only now showing signs of improvement. The signs are good ones, though, according to the President.

"It speaks to the greatness of America," he said. "It speaks to the entrepreneurial spirit. We're the greatest work-

force in the world."

Bush said the federal government can do plenty of things to help encourage the economic revival. The biggest thing, he said, was to make the temporary tax cuts Americans received recently permanent. The bulk of those cuts were aimed at small businesses, he said, which is the backbone of the economy.

"Most of the jobs in America were created by small business," Bush said. "It's the vibrancy of the economy."

"It's essential for us to do this," he added, and was rewarded with widespread applause from attendees.

Ultimately, though, the success of the economy is reliant on the ability of business owners themselves to be successful, and there's only one sure formula for that, Bush said.

"Small businesses have to be light on their feet, and willing to change in order to survive," the President told the crowd.

Developers of casino, racetrack look to future

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Now that the residents of Romulus have approved both the racetrack and casino, many people are asking; what happens now?

It is a different road for the two proposed developments. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians must first wait for Congressional approval on a land settlement claim put before the U.S. House of Representatives in July by Congressman John Dingell (D-Dearborn) before they are able to move forward in the process.

"We cannot move forward without that approval," said Steve Mitchell, a representative for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. "Once we get that approval we will start digging the dirt."

Until then, the tribe will be doing everything in their power to assure Congress will approve the bill.

"The tribe has a lot of good lobbyists working hard to get this bill passed," said Mitchell. "We also have the strong support of Cong. Dingell and although he is in the minority party, that means something in Washington."

Mitchell said the tribe will also be looking for support from Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan) and Senator Carl Levin (D-Michigan) on the casino issue when it gets to the Senate for approval.

"Stabenow has already been supportive of the idea, as long as it has community support behind it," he said.

Meanwhile, Mitchell said the tribe will continue to work with the city and finalize a sight for the casino that best suits both Romulus and the casino.

If the bill does not receive

Congressional approval, it could be introduced again.

"I can promise you that it will be introduced again, if it doesn't receive approval," said Mitchell. "And then again if need be."

Tim Keyes, the economic development director for the City of Romulus, said that many things still need to happen in the process before the development can go forward.

"Obviously the most important thing will be the federal legislation gaining approval," he said. "There is a possibility that could happen as early as January or February of 2004."

Once that approval is given, Keyes said the tribe had agreed to move through the usual channels to receive approval from the city.

"Although officially, the tribe does not need to go through the same type of process as other developers because it will be federal land," he said. "They (the tribe) stated that they will go the city to receive approval on site plans and such."

This is a process that can take up to 120 days, said Keyes.

Representatives for Magna Entertainment Corporation (MEC), the developer proposing the racetrack, said they believe that they are much further along in the process than the casino.

"We already own the land," said Lorne Kumer, vice-president of real estate for MEC. "We spent \$28 million to purchase it. We have also invested more than \$1 million in plans for the site. We have already made close to a \$30 million commitment to the City of Romulus."

Kumer said that Magna was looking forward to finalizing a Planned Development Agreement with the city and moving forward by gaining approval from the city council.

OBITUARIES

KOSZEDNAR, Helen W.

Helen W. Koszednar, 82, of Romulus, died Nov. 19.

Among her survivors are her children, Jerry, Richard (Sharon) and Joyce (Dale) Lennox; grandchildren Aaron, Trisha and Matt Lennox, Jeffrey (Julie) Sona and Jennifer (Kent) Hall, and great-grandchildren Kyle Hall and Nicholas Sona.

Funeral services were at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

TOYE, Bernard

Bernard C. Toye, 74, of Belleville, died Nov. 22 at home.

Among his survivors are his wife, D. Dadine (Richardson) Toye; children, Gregory Bean of FLA, Michael Bean of Westland, Linda (Thomas) Mroz, John (Valerie) Toye, Jeffrey Toye, Dionne Toye and Jay Toye, all of Belleville; siblings, Maria McGlinchey and Ned Toye, both of Ireland, and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Galvin Brown officiating.

Interment was at Tyler Street Cemetery in Belleville.

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Interment was at Tyler Street Cemetery in Belleville.

BONDIE, Leona J.

Leona J. Bondie, 71, of Romulus, died Nov. 17.

Among her survivors are her son, Donald J. (Lynne) Bondie of New Boston; a brother, Chester Frazier of Addison; a sister, Ethel (Tom) Towry of Hillsdale; grandchildren, Donald (Linda) Bondie Jr. and Deanne Trese, and great-grandchildren, Julie, Felicia, Eric, Tyler, Nicholas and Kayla.

Funeral services were at the Crane Funeral Home with the Rev. Robert J. White of Grace Baptist Church in Belleville, officiating.

Interment was in Romulus Cemetery.

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Interment was in Romulus Cemetery.

KERNER, Leo

Leo Kerner, Jr., 78, of Ypsilanti Township, formerly of Belleville, died Nov. 17.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 40 years, Marietta Ann (Massey); daughters, Valerie Guilloz of Belleville and Kaitha Reinhackel of Dexter; siblings, Marge Wakefield of Illinois, Geneva Barber of Ypsilanti, Leonard Kerner of Indiana, Carolyn Kerner and Roseann Kerner, both of Illinois, and Larry Kerner of Indiana; several nieces and nephews, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Kerner was retired from American Airlines and then worked for the Belleville Post Office for 20 years. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Mr. Kerner was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville, The Ypsilanti Eagles, the Belleville Moose

Lodge 934 and the Romulus VFW.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at New St. Peter Cemetery in Newton, ILL.

BARR, Leonard R.

Leonard R. Barr, 62, of Romulus, died Nov. 24.

Among his survivors are his wife, Kathleen M. (Kelly) Barr; his mother, Helen Barr of Wyandotte; sons, Brian (Lynda) Barr of Belleville and Leonard (Darlene) Barr of Ypsilanti; daughters, Sandra (Jim) O'Leary of Dearborn and Deborah (Steven) Bullough of Elk Grove, CA; brothers, Gerald (Marilyn) Barr of Southgate and David (Nancy) Barr of Lincoln Park, and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services were at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in New Boston with Father Alexander Wyrwal officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus.

DAVENPORT, Christine

Christine Davenport, 74, of Belleville, died Nov. 28.

Among her survivors are her children, Harlan (Sara) Davenport, Steve (Becky) Davenport, Mark (Theresa) Davenport, all of Belleville, and Diane (David) Holland of Orlando, FLA; siblings, Sammy (Mazel) Prater, Carlene (Clark) Raines and Beulah Merriman, all of Woodbury, TN; sister-in-laws, Ona Prater of Woodbury TN and Cleo Jacobs of Centertown, TN; 12 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Davenport was a member of Stony Creek Freewill Baptist Church and was retired from General Motors Fisher Body Plant.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Wayne E. Jacobs officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

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Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

POWERS, Dorothy L.

Dorothy L. (Krisko) Powers, of Romulus, died Nov. 9.

Among her survivors are her daughters, Darleen (Henry) Boland and Dawn (Jim) Carter; grandsons, Zachery and Jonathan; brother, John (Cammie) Krisko, and a nephew, John F. (Nicole).

A funeral mass was celebrated at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne.

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MCDANIELS, Edward Lee

Edward Lee McDaniels, 49, of Inkster died Oct. 12.

Funeral services were at Gethsemane Baptist Church with the Rev. Willie Davis officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

LAW, Lavidra

Lavidra Law, 97, of Inkster, died Oct. 25.

Among her survivors are her sister, Jerlean; three nieces; a daughter-in-law, Leslie; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Leavell Funeral Home in Midland, PA.

Interment was at Springhill Cemetery in Wessville, OH.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

WILLIAMS, Wallace

Wallace W. Williams, 71, of Wayne, died Nov. 21.

Among his survivors are his children, Wayne (Laurie) Williams and Diane (Mel) Williams-Najm; his mother, Dorothy

Williams; a sister, Beverly (Haider) Alawan; grandchildren, Oden, Inga and Tara and Williams and Travi Najm, and great-granddaughter Abigail Waldrop.

Funeral services were at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

Entombment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

NIELSEN, Faye I.

Faye I. (Merriman) Nielsen, 74, of Grand Blanc, died Nov. 22.

Among her survivors are her husband, Raymond "Vern" Nielsen, children, Gail (Edd) Murray of Oak Creek, WI, Norman (Denise) Nielsen and Gary (Linda) Nielsen, all of Fenton; grandchildren, Derek, Michael, Janel, Natalie, Nathan, Justin, Whitney and Seth, and an expected great-grandchild.

Mrs. Nielsen was a graduate of Wayne High School and was formerly a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Wayne.

Funeral services were at Gloria Die Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc with the Rev. Dennis J. Himm officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Sharp Funeral Home.

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Property Address	Minimum Bid Price
*4346 Allen	\$ 1,500.00
3817 Ash	\$ 6,000.00
*3845 Harrison	\$ 1,500.00
3746 Henry	\$10,000.00
4167 Henry	\$ 3,500.00
2942 Hickory	\$ 6,000.00
3220 Irene	\$10,000.00
*3503 Irene	\$ 1,500.00
4072 Isabelle	\$ 6,500.00
*3317 Luddington	\$ 1,500.00
4173 Moore	\$10,000.00
4344 Williams	\$ 6,000.00
4345 Williams	\$ 6,000.00
*4353 Williams	\$ 1,500.00

Properties are transferred with Quit Claim Deeds - any title searches are the responsibility of the Purchaser.

Properties will be open for public viewing on Saturday, December 13, 2003, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., as well as by individual appointment.

BID CUT-OFF-DATE: Monday, December 15, 2003, 4:00 p.m., at the REALTOR'S office.

BID OPENING DATE: Tuesday, December 16, 2003, 4:00 p.m., at the CITY CLERK'S office.

***Due to the condition of these properties they will be sold without showings.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Red Carpet Keim, Will Coop, Inc., 3767 Inkster Rd.
(313) 274-3141

Kimberly Turner, CMC
Inkter City Clerk

Publish: December 4, 2003
December 11, 2003

DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS
OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 4:00 pm.

The purpose of this meeting will be to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact

Property assessments can only be changed for :

1. Homestead exemption status.
2. Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify under items 1 or 2 should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to December 9, 2003.

Joannie Payne, CMC
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Novemer 26, 2003
December 4, 2003

Santa Claus set to visit Romulus

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Christmas is just around the corner and Romulus has several events to help celebrate the holiday season.

City officials said the upcoming events are a great and inexpensive way for families to spend time together and enjoy the holiday season.

The Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club and the Romulus Democratic Club have planned the annual holiday dinner dance at 6 tonight. The event, which will be at the UAW Local 174, 29841 Van Born Road, costs \$20 for individuals and \$35 per couple. The price includes dinner, door prize ticket and set-ups. There will also be a DJ and a 50/50 raffle. Attendees are also asked to bring a toy or can of food for charity. For further information call (734) 697-8157.

The annual Romulus tree lighting ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m., tomorrow at Historical Park in Romulus.

A key to the city will be given to Santa Claus by Mayor Alan Lambert and together the two will then light the city Christmas tree.

"Kids love the lighting ceremony," said Gayle Mach, a secretary at the Romulus Recreation Department. "They get such a kick out of seeing Santa Claus and Christmas Carol ride in on the fire truck. It is a lot of fun to watch."

The event will end at Progressive Hall with children visiting with Santa. Pictures with Santa will be available for a \$2 fee. Refreshments will also be served.

Romulus is holding a decorated house contest this year. So, residents are encouraged to nominate houses decorated for the season by calling the recreation department to give the owner's name and address by noon on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

There will be first, second and third place prizes for the lucky winners. The recreation department is also looking for residents to serve as judges for the contest. Those interested must register in advance for a \$1 fee. Judging will take place at 6 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11. The judging bus will leave from the recreation department.

The Romulus Senior Citizen Center will be hosting the annual "Our Family Christmas" from 6-8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 12 at Wick Elementary School.

The festivities will include refreshments, Santa Claus, a gift for each child, a magician and a sing-along. There will be something for all ages, so grandparents are encouraged to bring grandchildren and children are encouraged to bring their parents or grandparents. Pictures are available for a \$2 fee. Pre-registration for the event is necessary by tomorrow.

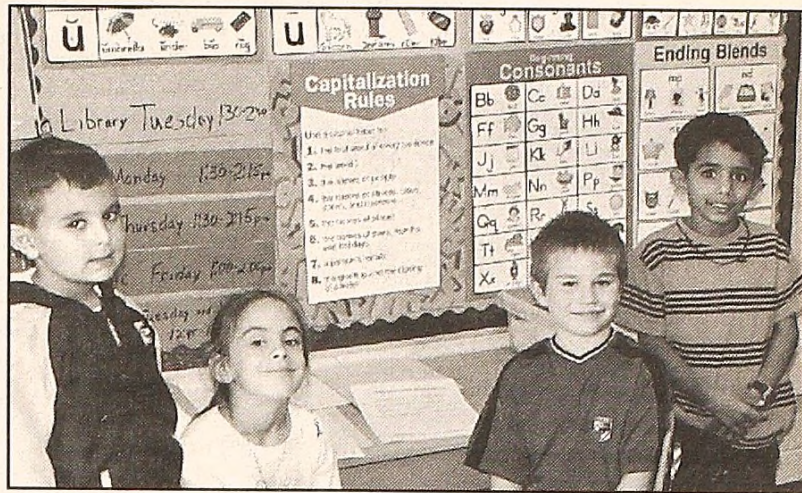
To register or for more information call the Senior Citizen Center at (734) 942-6852

Santa Claus will be stopping by the Romulus Recreation Department from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 for lunch and a story.

Santa will have hot dogs, chips and dessert and then will read a Christmas story and pose for pictures. The cost is \$3 per person. Pictures are an additional \$2. Arrival time is from 11:30-11:45 a.m., lunch will be 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. and stories and pictures will follow immediately.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the recreation department by noon on Thursday, Dec. 11.

For more information on any of the above events, call the Romulus Recreation Department at (734) 942-6852.



Merriman Elementary students participated in the "School Safety Pledges" program. All of the students signed a pledge to help if they are being bullied or see someone being bullied in school. Left, Jerry Golden, Angel Day, Nickolas Bovitz and Sheikh.

Students take pledge to promote safety in schools

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Students in all six Romulus elementary schools are taking part in a state program that highlights school safety.

School officials said they hope that this program will provide an opportunity for the community to recognize the importance of working together to provide safer schools.

The students signed pledges that said that they want their schools to be a place where all students feel safe and treat each other with respect and that they will not bully, tease or hurt anyone. If they hear bullying or teasing, they will tell the person to stop and tell an adult, they will tell an adult right away if they hear anyone threaten another person and they will immediately tell an adult if a student brings something to school that could hurt someone else.

Merriman Elementary school parents also signed this safety pledge.

"Our students also viewed and discussed a special "No Bullying" video," said Shellie Moore, principal at Merriman Elementary School.

She also noted that the school peer mediation program often resolves student disputes at Merriman.

Romulus Elementary has a special time set aside for dealing with bullying through a program

called "Team Talks". During this time, teachers discuss items such as the definition of bullying, examples of bullying behaviors and strategies that students can use to address being bullied and/or threatened.

The teachers also discuss ways students can help if they witness others being bullied.

"Romulus teachers encourage students to be positive role models for the peers and give frequent verbal praise for their good deeds," said Selassica O'Flynn, social worker at Romulus Elementary.

Some schools have started other programs to help with the effort, according to school officials.

Romulus Elementary has also instituted a "Hats Off To" awards program, which rewards students for assisting in bullying situations.

Barth Elementary has initiated a "Caught Caring" program where students can win a variety of gifts and school supplies by being "Caught Caring" for others. A student who is observed helping out someone else receives a card and then becomes eligible for a special weekly award drawing.

"We have all our drawing gifts colorfully displayed in the main hall showcase," said Susan Mitchell, social worker at Barth Elementary. "Students have shown a very favorable response to our program."

Vote

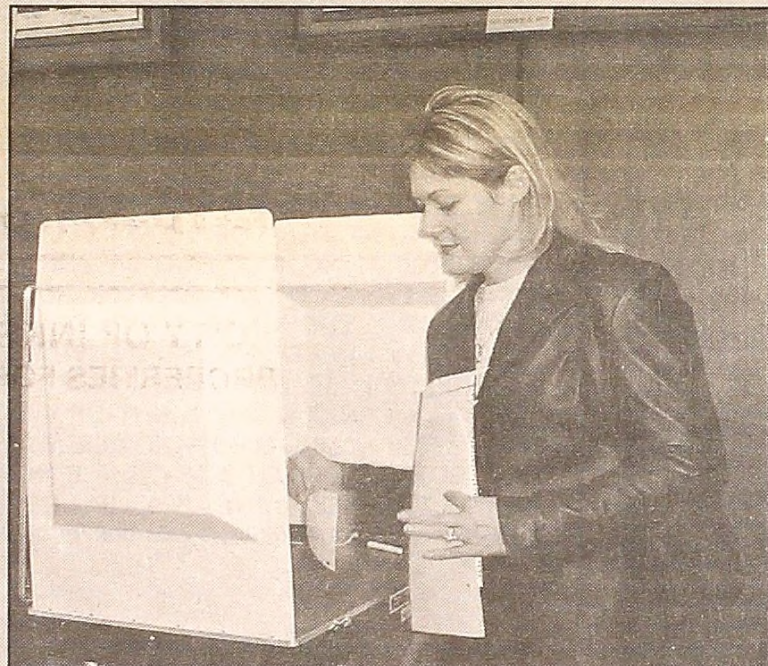
FROM PAGE 1

an anticipated 17,500 people to Romulus each day. It would have more than 2,500 slots and 90 table games. They estimate that this casino, which would sit on 40 acres of not yet disclosed land, would add 3,500 jobs to the city workforce.

The tribe has estimated the city will receive \$6 million in slot revenues each year.

Just across the street at the Doubletree Hotel in Romulus, representatives of Magna Entertainment Corp., the developers of the proposed race track, were also happy with the election results.

"It is a great day for the City of Romulus," said Lorne Kumer, vice president of real estate for Magna. "I am happy



Romulus voters turned out in force to voice their approval of a proposed racetrack and casino.

that the residents took the time to get the information and benefits the race track will offer the city. Magna is excited about being a member of the Romulus community."

Presidential hopeful Al Sharpton to visit area church

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The words of the Rev. Al Sharpton are likely to echo throughout the City of Inkster this weekend.

The 48-year-old political activist and Pentecostal minister - who has made a name for himself by championing civil rights - will take part in a prayer breakfast and community forum at the New Birth Baptist Church on Avondale Street from 10 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Dec. 13. The event is sponsored by the Inkster Ministerial Alliance. There is no charge for admission.

Sharpton, who is returning to Michigan for the first time since

the Democratic debate last month at the Fox Theater, was approached by the Rev. Horace Sheffield of the Association of Black Organizations (ABO) about the possibility of visiting Inkster.

"Rev. Sharpton feels this state is an important one for his campaign," said Charles Williams, an ABO member who helped organize the visit. "The smaller communities are the ones that are most often overlooked when candidates come to the state. (Sharpton) thought this would be a good way to galvanize voters."

Sharpton's bid for the Democratic presidential nomination will take him to several small suburbs as well as Detroit in the

near future, Williams said.

"That's what this campaign is about," Williams said. "The black vote and the smaller suburban vote are considered automatic (to some candidates). Some of the smaller suburban communities have high voting levels. The people really care."

Williams said that topics that will be discussed, and whether any other guests will speak during the event, is still being determined.

According to Sharpton's official Web site, www.al2004.org, the minister hopes to "raise issues that would otherwise be overlooked - for example, affirmative action, anti-death penalty policy, and African and Caribbean policy."

Other goals include cutting overseas spending and using the funds for economic development in the United States, creating a national healthcare program and reviving the Equal Rights Amendment for women.

Originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., Sharpton has been a strong advocate for African Americans and the downtrodden. He was ordained as a minister at age 10. In 1978, he made history as the first African American to seek a New York state senate seat. He also campaigned for the 1997 Democratic nomination for the New York City mayoral election, but lost to Rudy Messinger. Rudy Giuliani defeated Messinger for a second term as



Rev. Al Sharpton

mayor.

As an activist, Sharpton became involved in several high-profile civil rights cases in New York throughout the 80s and 90s. He also created National Action Network, a New York-based civil rights advocacy group.

Veterans' dependants are offered college scholarships

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

When the bill arrives in the mail for college classes, every dollar counts.

This is especially true for students with a parent serving overseas in the military.

But college-bound students have the ability to make those bills a little less painful this year by applying for two \$500 scholarships being offered by the Inkster chapter of the American Legion.

According to Jim Maahs, the adjutant of the newly formed Post 285, three caveats exist for students to be eligible: The winning applicants must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.5, be able to demonstrate financial need and prove that at least one parent is a veteran who served in the military during a recognized period of war or a declared military action.

"The American Legion wants to make the opportunity to go to college a possibility for more students," he said. "We have a ton of programs aimed at education and youth like the student troop-

er program. We have huge programs that serve children."

Maahs - a former reservist who was deployed into action in Granada, Lebanon and Iraq - said he knows first hand the financial difficulties faced by military families who might have a loved one - and a breadwinner - serving overseas.

"We encourage those applications," he said. "The families sometimes take a hit financially

when a soldier is overseas."

Applications for the Brewer Scholarship and the Guy M. Wilson Scholarship should be

accompanied by the following information: Proof of a blood relationship or proof of a familial relationship (such as a birth certificate or guardianship papers issued by a court); military discharge papers (otherwise known as DD-214 forms) that show entry and discharge dates from active service; official school transcripts signed by school administrator that show the applicant's grade point average; and signed tax forms that show a student and a parent's adjusted gross income. If a 1040 form is submitted, both sides must be attached. The par-

ent must sign all electronic filings.

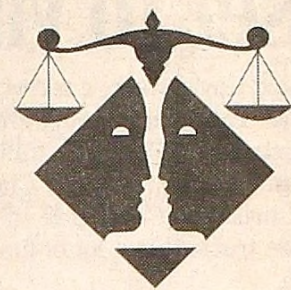
Students must also submit a one-page essay stating their goals and educational plans.

All applications received by the Dec. 31 deadline will go through a review process at the American Legion's district offices and in Lansing. Maahs said winners should be selected no later than the beginning of March.

Applicants planning to attend an out-of-state college can only apply for the Brewer Scholarship because it open to students attending any accredited college or university. The Guy M. Wilson Scholarship is only open to applicants planning on attending a Michigan college.

Interested students can contact Post 285 for an application and information packet by calling Adjutant Jim Maahs at (734) 721-1628 or writing the American Legion at P. O. Box 975, Inkster, MI, 48141-0975.

Students must also submit a one-page essay stating their goals.



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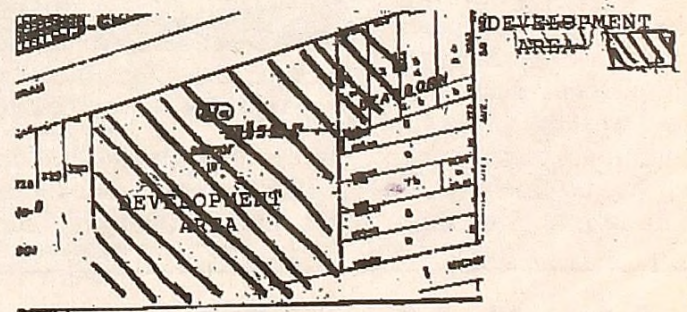
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF INKSTER WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE CITY OF INKSTER'S ZONING AND HOUSING APPEALS BOARD ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2003, AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE BOOKER T. DOZIER RECREATION COMPLEX, 2025 MIDDLEBELT ROAD TO CONSIDER A VARIANCE TO SECTION 155.85(A) OF THE CITY OF INKSTER ZONING CODE, WHICH STATES NO EXISTING STRUCTURE DEVOTED TO A USE NOT PERMITTED BY THIS CODE IN THE DISTRICT IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED SHALL BE ENLARGED, EXTENDED, CONSTRUCTED, RECONSTRUCTED, MOVED, OR STRUCTURALLY ALTERED EXCEPT IN CHANGING THE USE OF THE STRUCTURE TO A USE PERMITTED IN THE DISTRICT IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED. THE APPLICANT, DOANS COMPANIES, DESIRES TO RELOCATE THE AGGREGATE STORAGE MACHINERY APPROXIMATELY 40 LF SOUTH OF ITS EXISTING LOCATION. THE CONCRETE COMPANY IS A NON-CONFORMING USE. THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO APPEAL IS COMMONLY IDENTIFIED AS 29001 MICHIGAN AVENUE AND IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF MIDDLEBELT ROAD AND MICHIGAN AVENUE AND IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

THAT PART OF THE E½ OF THE W½ OF SECTION 24, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 330 OF ASSESSORS INKSTER PLAT NO. 8 OF PART OF THE W½ OF SEC 25, TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 9 EAST, CITY OF INKSTER, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 71 DEGREES 25' 45" EAST ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF MICHIGAN AVENUE 687.29 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 06' 10" EAST, 642.94 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY LINE OF THE MICHIGAN CENTRAL R.R. RIGHT OF WAY, THENCE SOUTH 77 DEGREES 09' 30" WEST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY LINE 669.49 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 330; THENCE NORTH 02 DEGREES 20' 15" WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT, 572" FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. (PROPERTY ID # 44-008-99-0001-000)



PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE INVITED, PERSONS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY SEND THEIR COMMENTS IN WRITING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CITY OF INKSTER PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, 2121 INKSTER ROAD, INKSTER, MICHIGAN, 48141. COMMENTS WILL BE RECEIVED THROUGH 12:00 NOON, DECEMBER 10, 2003. PLEASE REFERENCE CASE NAME DOAN CONSTRUCTION RELOCATION IN ALL CORRESPONDENCES.

THE CITY OF INKSTER WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY REASONABLE AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES, SUCH AS SIGNERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED AND AUDIO TAPES OF PRINTED MATERIALS BEING CONSIDERED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES UPON FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY OF INKSTER AT (313) 563-3211.

JOAN SPEARS
CHAIRPERSON
ZONING AND HOUSING APPEALS BOARD

Publish: December 4, 2003

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CITY OF WAYNE DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF CITY OF WAYNE

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the City of Wayne will meet at Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact.

Property assessments can only be changed for:

1. 2002 Poverty Exemption.
2. 2000, 2001, 2002 and/or 2003 Homestead Exemption Status.

Any property owner who believes they qualify under items 1 or 2 should call or visit the City of Wayne Assessing Department at 734-722-2000 prior to December 9, 2003.

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk

Publish: December 4, 2003

“GI” isn’t just for the military
*By Jehangir Rao, M.D.,
gastroenterologist*

Do you suffer from heartburn?

Do you have frequent bouts of
diarrhea or upset stomach?

If so, you could be suffering from a
gastro-intestinal (GI) condition.
There are many GI ailments which
could be the cause of such prob-
lems; Gastroesophageal Reflux
Disease (GERD), colorectal cancer,
irritable bowel syndrome (IBS),
inflammatory bowel disease (IBD),
ulcers or gallstones.

Chronic GERD or heartburn, if not
treated properly can lead to further
disease such as esophageal cancer.
With the holidays coming up here
are some guidelines to help prevent
heartburn. You should limit your
intake of chocolate, caffeine, alco-
hol, spicy and deep-fried foods.
Smoking and going to bed immedi-
ately after eating should be
avoided.

If you suffer from GERD, you can
try over-the-counter treatments
such as Tums, Rolaids or other
antacids. For a persistent problem
you should seek an appointment
with a physician.

Some of the treatments prescribed
by a physician include a prescrip-
tion for medicine, such as Nexium
or Prevacid. You may need further
testing such as a diagnostic gas-
troscopy. This endoscopy proce-
dure is performed by sedating the
patient and then carefully inserting
a flexible tube through the mouth
and into the esophagus. It is then
advanced into the stomach and the
first part of the small intestine
(duodenum). The scope is a “little
camera” that shows any abnormal-
ities on a video screen. Once the
minimally invasive procedure is
completed the physician will be
able to more accurately diagnose
and treat the ailment, so you can
get back to your normal life.

Not all GI diseases can be diag-
nosed through an endoscopy proce-
dure. Sometimes a colonoscopy
needs to be performed. A patient
would have a colonoscopy for
symptoms of diarrhea, rectal bleed-
ing or lower abdominal pain. A
colonoscopy procedure is similar to
that of an gastroscopy, the main
difference being that the scope is
inserted through the rectum and
the inside of the patient’s large
intestinal tract is examined.

Guidelines from the American
Cancer Society suggest that every-
one over 50 years of age have a
baseline colonoscopy to check for
polyps or colon cancer.

*Dr. Rao is a board certified
gastroenterologist at Oakwood
Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He
has been practicing at Annapolis
and in the western Wayne commu-
nity for over 20 years. For more
information about Oakwood
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Nutcracker set this weekend

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

Tchiakovsky's *Nutcracker Ballet* is set to begin traditional holiday performances in Plymouth this weekend. The ballet is a fairy tale about the enchanted Christmas Eve dreams of a young girl.

Staged by the Plymouth Symphony, Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company, and the Plymouth Canton Educational Park Madrigal Singers, the show will be performed at 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday. All presentations will take place in the Salem High School Auditorium, at 46181 Joy Road in Canton.

"(The *Nutcracker*) really appeals to audiences. A lot of families come out for this performance," said Angela Han, executive director of the Plymouth Symphony. She added that for some families, attending a performance of *The Nutcracker* has become a Christmas tradition.

Dawn Greene, who leads the ballet company as artistic director, agreed.

"It's a nice start to the Christmas season," she said.

Han suggested that *The Nutcracker* is popular in part because it appeals to children and introduces children to both ballet and classical music.

Greene agreed that *The Nutcracker* is a nice way to expose children to the ballet.

"It's a light ballet that is easy for children to follow," said Greene. She also said that the inclusion of young children in the cast adds to the appeal of the show to other young people.

This year, the lead roles will be played by Dawnell Dryja, originally from Canton Township and Calin Radulescu, originally from Bucharest, Romania. Dryja, who is also Greene's daughter, will dance the part

of the Sugar Plum Fairy. According to her biography, she has danced professionally with such groups as the Metropolitan Ballet Theater of Detroit, the Dayton Ballet, and the Cincinnati Ballet. Radulescu will perform the role of the Sugar Plum's Cavalier. Radulescu's biography said that he spent four years as a principal dancer with the Romanian National Opera and several years touring around the world. Greene added that Danielle DeNapoli and Kevin Burek, both of Livonia, would dance the roles of the Snow Queen and the Snow King. Martin Skocelas-Hunter, 14, of Westland will fill the role of the Nutcracker Prince, while 12-year-old Lauren Cavicchio of Livonia will play Clara.

The Plymouth Symphony League will also host a Sugar Plum Tea in the Salem High School cafeteria following the performances. The tea will allow patrons to enjoy light refreshments while mingling with the costumed dancers. Tickets to the ballet are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children through the 12th grade. Admission to the Sugar Plum Fairy Tea is an additional \$5. Groups of 10 or more are eligible to receive a 10 percent discount. Tickets are available by calling the Plymouth Symphony at 734-451-2112, or by contacting them at plymouthsymphony@aol.com.

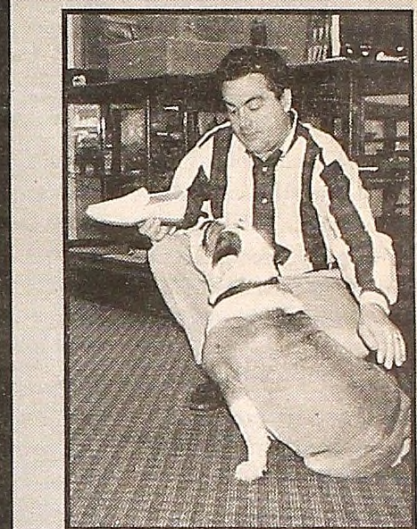
Tickets can also be purchased at Crystal Diamond Setters in Plymouth; Dancewear Gallery, Evola Music, and Dearborn Music in Canton; Bunny Sanford's Dance in Livonia, or through the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company. The performance is sponsored in part by the Plymouth Symphony League and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, which is affiliated with the National Endowment of the Arts.



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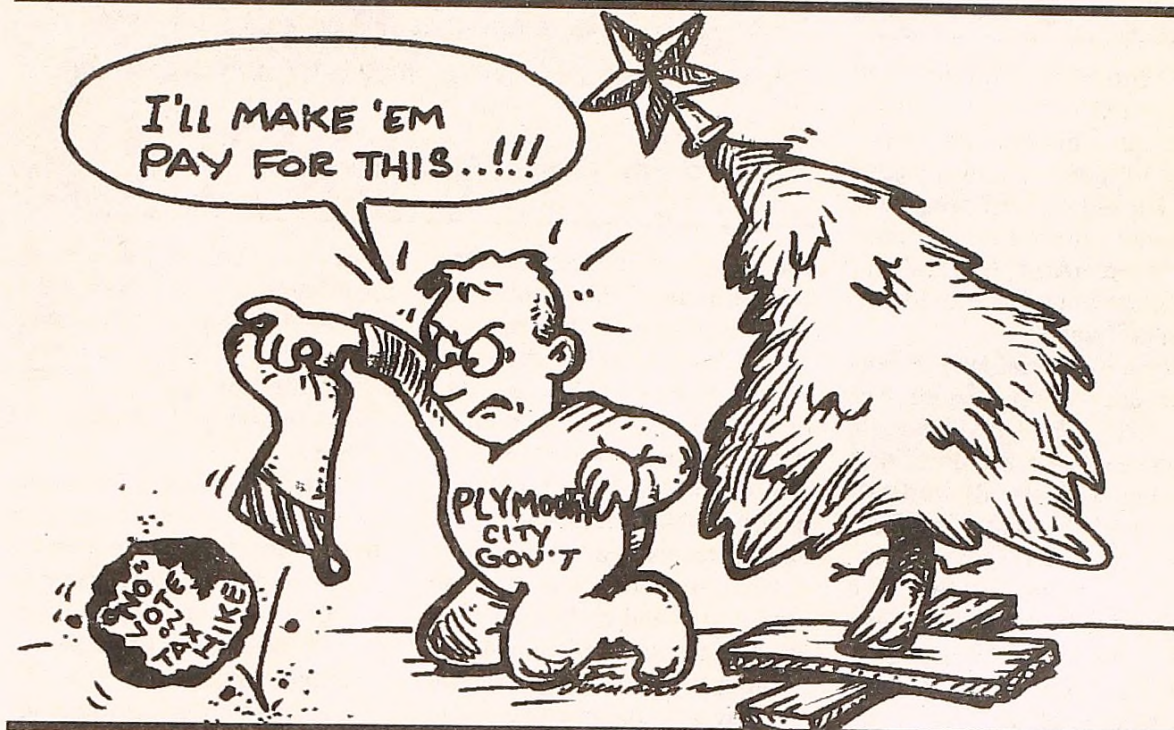
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OPINION

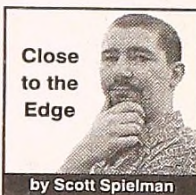
Goodbye taxes, hello Grinch

Every business owner in Plymouth liked Christmas a lot. Except for the Grinch in city hall, who apparently did not. Now, please don't ask why, for the reason he'll give? "The budget is a dark place, where no spirit can live. There will be no manger, no holiday scene. Because voters turned down a tax increase, the fiends! Kellogg Park will remain empty of this holiday tradition. While our Christmas spirit lies, heavy, in perdition - The nativity lies in a DPW yard - We won't send out anything, not even a card. There are no funds for the DPW workers To set up and display this yearly tear-jerker. It may be sad, but there's naught we can do. We have other services to protect, too!"

You may ask, then, why some good-meaning group Cannot themselves set up this holiday troupe. "It's still too expensive," is what they will say, "Especially when thugs take them away. Then we must find them and bring them back; And it takes money and manpower for something like that. Better instead to let them stay put So we won't chase ourselves and step on our foot." Appeal to the mayor, she gives the same rhymes: "Don't look at me, it's a sign of the times. It is the reality of what it is." But that phrase means nothing, c'mon, what gives? Is it really such an overwhelming expense To put up a manger, menorah, or glitter fence? Or to help the three wise men on their yearly shift From fountain to manger, to deposit their gifts? Perhaps they'll say that no one will notice This glitch on the scene of Rockwellian bliss. That's not so, though, at this time of year The park is so obviously barren of cheer. Whatever the reason, the Grinch is stuck fast Determined to keep hidden this scene from the past. They say their wallets are just too tight? We say their heads aren't screwed on just right. (With apologies to the late Dr. Seuss)



Playing over the pain



Close to the Edge
by Scott Spielman

The City of Plymouth scheduled the first goal setting session for the new commission last Monday and Good Lord was it a waste of time.

Commission members had a spare hour before they talked with the planning commission and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) about upcoming parking issues, and they were forced to meet in a spare locker room at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

(The Plymouth Youth Advisory Council took up the city commission meeting room, and the other spare rooms in the cultural center were already occupied by seniors groups and fitness classes.)

So it was hardly the best place to plan for the future, in a closed in chamber with walls that echoed like a seventh grade science experiment. The city commission sat around plastic, lopsided tables beneath the logos of the Plymouth Sharks and Stingrays and strained to hear each other over the distant roar of the Zamboni and the clatter of other equipment.

At one point, Police Chief Wayne Carroll cupped his palms around his ears to reduce the echoes and listen to what was being discussed - and I don't blame him for that. The commissioners were discussing the possibility of reducing the number of police officers on the street, which is rarely, if ever, a good idea.

City department heads, as well as the few interested members of the public that could find Locker Room #5 sat alongside the lockers, trying to make sense of the confounding echoes. In fact, with the lack of video equipment and the virtual inability to hear anything spoken, it was the closest the city has come to a secret meeting that I can remember.

Maybe, though, the setting was the perfect place for the meeting, well, metaphorically, at least.

History is sprinkled with images such as this. Maybe they didn't involve gigantic pieces of paper and red markers for the participants to cast their votes, but the meeting could have been reminiscent of every pre-game speech before the proverbial Big Game.

The coaches get up and say some inspiring words. Everyone on the team is silent and reflective as the weight of their situation becomes apparent. They are the underdogs, the long shots. Some would say they face an insurmountable challenge in the prospect of maintaining services while slashing an estimated \$1.3 million from a \$6 million budget.

But, like in any Hollywood offering loosely based on an inspirational story, if they band together, perform above their capabilities one last time, they can be heroes. They will be immortal.

Not that Steven Spielberg or John Woo is likely to come calling to commemorate the Budget Battle of 2003 to celluloid, but the average citizen will certainly appreciate the ability to go about their days in relative safety, on streets cleared of snow, ice and leaves.

So what do you say, guys and gals? It's going to be a tough game.

The other team is implacable and overbearing. We may doubt ourselves now, we may make some plays that we don't like, or disagree, at times, with the coach. But we can do it. Let's go out there and win one for the Gipper.

Now, let's hit the showers!

Tis the season for cooperation

Business owners and politicians in the City of Wayne are constantly talking about what they need to do to help revitalize the city.

Recent advances have helped - upcoming residential projects will, theoretically, bring more foot traffic in the downtown area. There are also ways for business owners to upgrade their storefronts, reduce blight and make the area more attractive to neighbors and interested business people.

Sometimes, though, it doesn't require a large-scale development, a new shop or a fresh coat of paint.

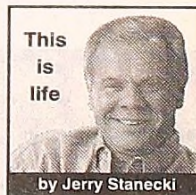
Take, for instance, the holiday season. This is a time of year that retailers look forward to for months. They know that shoppers will be out in force, no matter what the stock tickers say across the bottom of 24-hour cable news channels.

The City of Wayne has plenty of special events that take place during the holiday season, too. A coordinated effort to combine those events with sales promotions would benefit everybody.

This is something that retailers in Plymouth have down to a sci-

See Season, page 7

Sometimes victory isn't sweet



This is life
by Jerry Stanecki

A friend started to tell of an experience he'd had at a 12-step recovery meeting. It had to do with self pity; you know, "my problem is always bigger than yours."

I protested, "But, isn't it violating anonymity if you tell me?"

It wasn't, he said, because he had changed names. He felt it was such a powerful example of a problem with which a lot of folks struggle, that it was important to share the story.

We sat there drinking coffee as he told the story of a young man struggling to stay sober, and a middle-aged man who had found meaning and strength.

With killer good looks of a young Brando, the 22-year-old sat there. Black hair, dark eyes filled with anxiety, the man was shaking slightly as he sat in the church basement on a cold October Saturday night.

"My name is Mike; I'm an addict." He said. "I'm here tonight because I really want to drink, I mean, I feel it in my heart. I worked 100 hours this week and I just want to go out and drink until I pass out."

Mike explained that he had been straight and sober for six months - this time. Twice before, he had relapsed, and the last time had made a promise to himself to stay straight - but promises are easily broken when it comes to addiction.

"A couple of friends called and asked me to go out drinking tonight," he said, "Instead, I came here because I'm so afraid."

What Mike wasn't understanding, my friend explained, was the fear that comes with not being "in the now." Mike was afraid he would fail. But, by being there, at that meeting, Mike was winning.

See Vicotry, page 10

JOURNAL

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Students "Mix It Up" during lunch program

Theresa Wherrett
Staff Writer

In the 1985 movie "The Breakfast Club," five very different high school students are forced to spend the day in detention. Locked in the library with nothing to do but talk to each other, the teenagers find that they have more in common than they originally thought.

Wayne Memorial High School organized a version of *The Breakfast Club* last month, although no one was locked in the library. Instead, students were randomly assigned to lunch tables and encouraged to get to know the other students who happened to be sitting with them.

"I've met everyone at my table," said sophomore Michael Pitts, who had been assigned to table "Z". "I've seen most of them before, but I haven't had a chance to talk to them."

This is the first year that

We have social boundaries and groups here just like in any highschool. We're pretty open and welcoming.

Principal Christine Bak

Wayne Memorial has tried a "Mix It Up at Lunch" day, a nationally organized event designed to break down social boundaries. National organizers estimated that 6,000 schools across all 50 states participated in "Mix It Up at Lunch" Nov. 18, with approximately 300,000 high school students changing seats for lunch.

"The national organization sent posters and stickers for us to use," said college mentor Annie Phillips, who helped to organize the Wayne Memorial event and handwrote 2,000 nametags for the students. "They sent a handbook which we used to train the school's senators." Senators are

members of the student government and were trained to facilitate conversations at each lunch table.

"I really give the kids a lot of credit for trying this," added Phillips.

Prior to the Mix It Up lunch, students were given a survey to gauge their perceptions about social divisiveness. The students perceived about 20 different groups, according to Assistant Principal Christine Bak.

"We have social boundaries and groups here just like in any high school," said Bak. However, Bak said that most of the students felt that boundaries were more

surmountable at Wayne than at other schools. "We're pretty open and welcoming."

Anyone who's ever been to high school knows that cliques do exist and the idea that some students are *in* means that others are *out*. Trying to break into a new group and having tolerance for others in different groups can be difficult. Sometimes just getting out of a comfort zone and trying to eat lunch with a "stranger" can be difficult.

Similar to diversity training that adults receive in the workplace, the Mix It Up day is intended to promote tolerance and understanding.

"Anything we can do for ninth graders to make them feel more welcome is wonderful," said Freshman Transition Coordinator Vanessa Stafford. "In fact, anything we do for 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th graders is great. We want them to all feel like it's their school."

Season

FROM PAGE 8

ence. They invite (read "pay for") the morning show from 105.1 FM to broadcast live from the town and promote the many businesses there.

There's no reason to emulate

that particular event, but there's a way to springboard off events like the annual Rotary Holiday Parade, or the annual church bazaar put on by the First Congregational Church of Wayne every year.

Sure, businesses in the downtown area may suffer a bit from an image perception. But business owners don't need a glitzy

radio show or free carriage rides to call attention to themselves. All they need is to show a little cooperation and willingness to take part in a downtown-wide promotion.

Those events, when they take place, are typically successful, as the annual sidewalk sales show. But to really help get more diverse businesses in town, more

events like that are needed. Business owners like to see a lot of foot traffic; they like to see a well-kept section of building on either side of them.

They also like to see a coordinated group of like-minded people who want to promote the entire downtown district, to the benefit of everyone who works, shops and lives there.

Victory

FROM PAGE 8

A few more people shared their feelings. The last to speak was Dick, a man old enough to be Mike's father:

"I remember when I was six months sober," Dick said quietly. "That was seven years ago. Six months sober, and doctors told me I had cancer. But I didn't drink over it."

"A few months later," Dick continued, "as I was recovering from a cancer operation, a moving van pulled up in front of my house, and my wife of 24 years packed everything into it and left me. I didn't drink over that."

My friend says you could hear a pin drop.

"Two years ago I met a woman

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Dick talked even more quietly now.

"Last August we were on vacation when she turned yellow. A short time later she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer". Dick paused and swallowed. "Two days ago she died in my arms. I didn't drink over that."

Dick looked directly at Mike and said, "Mike—you don't have to drink either."

Power. There is, without doubt, incredible power at these tables of strangers, who share an intimate bond even before they meet. Strangers, who come believing they are so different, so

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Yet, these brothers in arms, sit next to each other and share their secrets, experiences and hopes. Surprise is common with the realization that the person talking is not talking about your secrets, but their own secrets, and theirs are yours.

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Learning experience

Fifth-grade class purchases land in rain forest

Scott Spielman
Editor

Students in Rebecca Kirchoff's fifth grade class just may be the youngest set of landowners in recent history.

The youngsters recently collected enough money to purchase 5 acres of endangered land in Bolivia, according to Kirchoff, who teaches at Taft-Galloway Elementary School in Wayne.

The students have been studying ecosystems in their social studies unit, she said, and they purchased the land from the Center for Ecosystem Survival organization. The students started the project in October, and incorporated all of the core academic areas into the assignment, she added.

The land is in the Amboro National Park. The park sits in the eastern elbow of the Andes Mountains, according to an information sheet distributed by the

"I think it was a good experience because we learned how to raise money, recycle and help animals at the same time."

Martin Urbaniak

Center for Ecosystem Survival. It is distinguished as a place where there is a sudden transition between the moderate temperate areas to the south and the tropical forest to the north. The park encompasses 1.6 million acres.

"I think it was a great idea that we did that," said fifth grader Apryl Michalak. "It makes us proud that we saved the plants and animals."

The students organized a bottle drive to generate enough money to purchase the land, according to Kirchoff. They collected 2,000 bottles and then con-

tributed another \$500 by completing chores for their families and donating that money. The total, \$2,500, was enough to purchase 5 acres.

The students also learned about the important of biomes, the ecosystems in biomes and how each organism plays a vital role on Earth. They had many hands-on learning opportunities, too. They cared for two toads, a gecko and a rabbit in their classroom, according to Kirchoff. The task involved more than just feeding them and keeping their cages clean - they created the

habitat, fed them and figured out where they fit into various food chains.

Another aspect of the assignment taught the core democratic values for social studies, she said. The students researched the various parts of the world and then voted on the portion they wanted to purchase.

They learned that purchasing the land to help the planet they live on is for the common good, one of the core democratic values.

"I think it was a good experience because we learned how to raise money, recycle and help animals at the same time," said fifth-grader Martin Urbaniak.

Each student received an honorary deed to their property, along with knowing they did something to help save endangered land.

"It's a good feeling to save plants and animals," said fifth grader Kaitlyn Johnson.



Fifth graders at Taft Galloway Elementary School all received honorary deeds for the 5 acres of parkland they purchased in Bolivia. The assignment helped them learn about their core democratic values and save some endangered land.

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BUSINESS

Funeral home offers holiday grief program

Theresa Werhett
Staff Writer

Christmas – a season heralded in song as a time of great joy – can seem empty to those who have lost a family member or other loved one. If, as the songs say, we should be home for Christmas, or at the very least, going over the river to Grandmother's house, what does this mean for those who are mourning the very ones that make a house a home?

"Certain days throughout the year are very difficult for those who have lost someone – birthdays, anniversaries, Mother's Day," said Wes Baldwin, M.A.L.P.C. (Master of Arts, Licensed Practicing Counselor). "These days can compound feelings of loss, anxiety, loneliness and hurt. What's so difficult about Christmas is that it's not just one day. The Christmas season starts in mid-November. That makes for six – eight tough weeks."

Baldwin provides grief after-care counseling through his office in Harper Woods. He also works with about a dozen local funeral homes. On Dec. 10 and Dec. 14, he will facilitate candle lighting services at two Vermeulen Funeral Home locations, to celebrate the lives of those who have died.

"We're going to talk about some things to do that will help people get through the holiday season," said Baldwin. "We're going to talk about some things to avoid. We'll talk about having a plan of action to move into the New Year. It won't heal the

hurt, but it will help."

At the end of the service, Baldwin will light a single candle. The next person will light a candle and speak the name of the deceased. The next person will do the same, until the room is full of lighted candles.

"It's the idea that in a matter of minutes we go from a very dark room to a very bright room," Baldwin said. "We work together to share our grief."

The candle lighting services are open to the public, according to Carol Gounaris, Vermeulen office manager. "This is not just for people who have used our facility. It's for anyone who has the need."

This is the fourth year that Vermeulen Funeral Home has organized a candle lighting service around the holidays, Gounaris said. About 150 people have attended past services.

"We usually see someone in the first year of loss," said Gounaris. "But sometimes we get returning families because it is so helpful." Gounaris added that children are welcome at the services.

Baldwin said that although the first year without someone is hard, it is generally the second year that is most difficult.

"It can take six months after a loss just to come out of the fog," said Baldwin. "Then, in the second year, it really sinks in: this person is gone and they're not coming back."

However, Baldwin stressed, there is not a set pattern for grieving. Some people are hard-hit in the first six months,

while others grieve for more than two or three years after a loss. The only thing in common, he said, is that grieving is "hard work."

For those unable to come to the candle lighting services, Baldwin had a few words of advice. "Try your absolute best not to be alone on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. This is not the time to withdraw. Get connected to other people."

"Find time to intentionally visit some of your loss. Get out those old photo albums and love letters," he added. "Write a letter to that person if you want

to. Cry. Then get up and move on."

The first candle lighting service will be from 7 to 8 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home located at 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. The second service is scheduled from 6 to 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home located at 980 N. Newburgh Road in Westland. Light refreshments will be provided.

Gounaris asked that those wishing to attend call the funeral home by noon on the day of the service. The Plymouth phone number is 734-459-2250 and the Westland phone number is 734-326-1300.

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05. Personals
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
31. Help Wanted Sales

32. Help Wanted
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Pawn Shops
43. Money to Loan
44. Music Lessons
45. Art Lessons
46. Private Instruction
47. Schools
50. Pets & Supplies

54. Poultry - Livestock
55. Farm Equipment/Supplies
56. Animal Feed
57. Antiques
58. Flea Markets
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business with Office & Equipment
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies

65. Tree Service
66. Fuel
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Christmas Trees
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
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78. Aircraft

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87. Room for Rent
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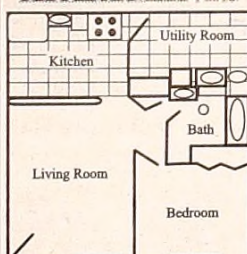
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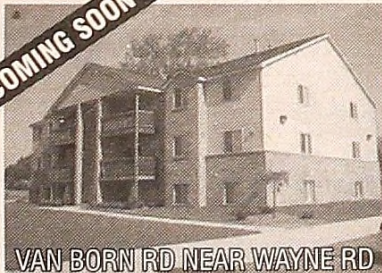
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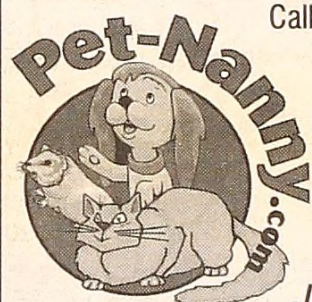
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SPORTS

Canton Chiefs hoopsters fall to West Bloomfield, 62-44

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Although the Canton Chiefs won the district championship against rival Salem last Friday, their celebration was short lived.

The championship victory moved the 19-4 Chiefs into Class A regional competition Monday night against the West Bloomfield Lakers at Auburn Hills Avondale High School, where they suffered a 62-44 loss.

"They're a good team," said Canton Coach Bob Blohm.

"They're real athletic and they played a great game."

The Chiefs managed to keep it close in the first quarter. They were down by only five points, 16-11, to start the second quarter. Canton only put up seven points in the second, though, while West Bloomfield scored 19 to extend their lead to 35-18 at the half.

Canton didn't fair any better in the third quarter. They only posted eight points to West Bloomfield's 14 and fell behind 49-26 before the final quarter of play.

"The second and third quar-

ters really determined the game," Blohm said. "The key was in rebounds. They had a lot of shots but had good second shots—they controlled the boards and the tempo of the game. They're a hard team to come back against."

The Chiefs rallied in the fourth quarter to outscore the Lakers 18-13, but the margin was too far to close and West Bloomfield walked away with the 62-44 victory.

Samantha Mahoney led the Lakers with 18 points, 14 in the first half. She went 10-15 from the

line. Randall Hurst scored 14 and Nicole Clark added 11 for West Bloomfield.

Canton Junior Center Katie Cezat notched another double-double to lead Canton with 21 points and 14 rebounds.

"She had a great game...a great season," Blohm said. "She gave us an inside game."

Lisa Ealy added nine points for Canton.

Although the season ended on a down note, there is nothing the Chiefs should feel disappointed about, Blohm said.

"Overall we had a great year. The kids should be proud of what they've done," he said. "We won our league, we were runner-ups in the conference and we won districts. The girls did a great job getting ready to play at a high level."

There will be a strong core of players returning to defend their district championship.

Cezat, a rebounding and scoring force, and sophomore stars Ealy, Becci Houdek and Molly Conlon will return to the court next year.

New Head Chief leads Canton to season-opening victory

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Jim Wheaton couldn't have asked for anything more than a win in his first game as the new head coach of the Canton Chiefs hockey team. Wheaton and his Chiefs knocked out the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame Prep School with a 7-4 victory last Saturday.

"The guys played pretty well," Wheaton said. "They played the way they were supposed to."

Kyle Tollison led the team with a hat trick and an assist. Bryan Wioncek added two goals and two assists while Ben Laurin

contributed with three assists. Reese McCabe and Matt Oliver each added a goal in the win.

Notre Dame scored first to take the early lead in the first period but it didn't take long for the Chiefs to find their groove. Canton scored three unanswered goals in the first period to take a 3-1 lead and scored two more in the beginning of the second to extend their lead to 5-1.

The Irish fought back to cut Canton's lead to 5-2 but the Chiefs answered with another goal to put them back up by four, 6-2. The Irish didn't lie down and scored another goal in the final minutes

of the second period.

Tollison finished Canton's scoring in the third period to put them up 7-3 but Notre Dame put one more by Canton goalie Tony Hylko to end the game 7-4.

"We controlled the play," Wheaton said. "We just outplayed them. I tried a few different things at the end which allowed them to score, but we controlled the play through the game."

Canton 1, Northville 5

The Chiefs didn't fare so well in their first league game against rivals Northville last Wednesday. Canton succumbed to the

Mustangs' speed and fell 5-1.

McCabe scored the Chiefs' lone goal with an assist from Oliver.

"The just outplayed us," Wheaton said. "They had a lot of speed, which is something we'll have to adjust to in the future. We'll get them next time around."

Canton will face off against the Mustangs again on January 17 in Northville. First, the Chiefs have to worry about a tough Churchill team tomorrow night at home. Churchill took the edge off of a tough Salem Rocks team with a 9-2 victory last Wednesday.

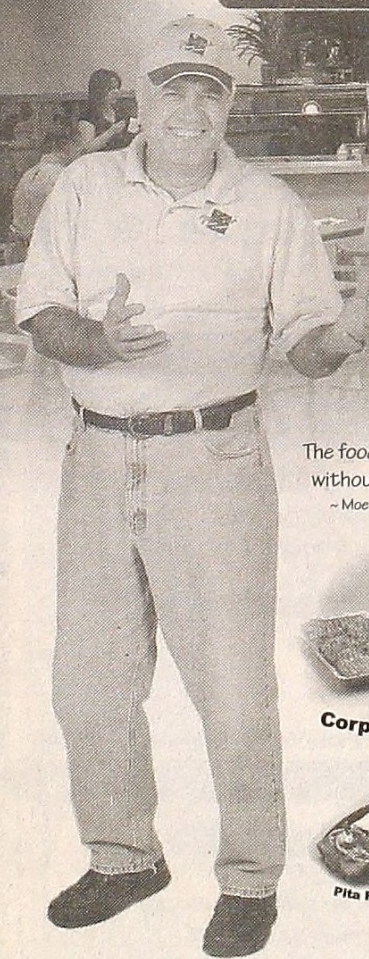
"They're a big and quick

team," Wheaton said. "Last year, there was a one-game difference between the top three teams. I think Churchill will stand out this year."

Wheaton has been with the Chiefs' hockey program for five years but this is his first year as head coach. He said he hopes to follow the lead of other Canton teams this year and head to the post season. Tim Baechler led the Chiefs' varsity football team to a conference championship and on to the regional finals and Bob Blohm led the varsity girls' basketball team to division and district championships this year.

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The Romulus-Belleville Community High State Alternative School Flag Football Champions are led by coaches Matt Kapala and Charles TenBroeck (center with trophy) and includes players: (first row) Keith Averitt and Sterling Austin, (second row) Devon Penney, Josiah Jendritz, Andre Brown, Zack Price, Joe Pettway, and Demaris Harvey. Other members, not pictured, include: Marcus Long, Willie Canady, Willie Stubbs and Ahmad Gambles.

Lions win state championship

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Romulus-Belleville Community High Lions flag football team captured the title of State Champions for alternative schools at Holt High School last weekend. The Community High Lions represented southeastern Michigan in the tournament and posted four consecutive wins including the 12-0 smothering of Walled Lake in the final game.

Coaches Matt Kapala and Charles TenBroeck said that they were pleased with the perfor-

mance of the team and the championship.

Josiah Jendritz had the play of the day against Walled Lake when he intercepted a pass in the end zone and returned 104 yards for the game-winning touchdown in the 12-0 victory.

The Lions outscored opponents 104-12 in their first three games. They shutout Middleton-Fulton 39-0 in the first round, held Traverse City to six points in a 35-6 victory in the second round, and defeated Alma 34-6 in the semi-finals.

Principal Al Wilkerson was

very pleased with the sportsmanship displayed by his Community High students throughout the tournament.

"Our kids really represented themselves and their communities in a first class manner throughout all four games," he said.

The Community High Lions finished their season with a 7-1 record and this was their second Michigan Alternative Athletic Association (MAAA) state title. The Lions had previously won the 2000 MAAA state basketball championship.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD NOVEMBER 10, 2003 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Randolph Gear.

Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William A. Crova, Randolph Gear, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.

Absent: None.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk

Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-472

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 3, 2003.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3A. None.

03-473

4A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Romak to adopt a Memorial Resolution for the Family of Fred Wahrman.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4C. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-474

5A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a resolution of appreciation for Phillip Renke on his retirement from Romulus Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-475

5A2. Motion by Miller, supported by Wadsworth to authorize the Mayor to sign the Wayne County Municipality 2003 Mosquito Abatement Program Application Form.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-476

5B. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to authorize the Mayor to sign the State of Michigan Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning 2003-2004 Grant Agreement with the State of Michigan.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-477

5C1. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to authorize payment of Invoice #FY2004 058 for the annual 2003/2004 Membership Dues with The Senior Alliance in the amount of \$1,838.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-478

5C2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to schedule a study session for December 8th, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Romulus Council Chamber for an update by the State of Michigan on the clean-up efforts on the Satterlee Dump site on Wick Road.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-479

6A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Romak to authorize elected officials to attend the Michigan Municipal League Annual Conference to be held in Lansing, Michigan, March 24, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-480

6A2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller to adopt a resolution supporting the Salvation Army in its Red Kettle Days Campaign from November 19 through December 24, 2003, with donations used to address the crisis of poverty and homelessness in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-481

6A3. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Romak to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 18 and 19, introduced at the Council meeting held November 3, 2003.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-482

11. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to authorize payment of Warrant 03-21 omitting Fund 301 Beverly Road Construction in the total amount of Five Hundred, Forty Eight Thousand, Eighty Seven Dollars and Forty One Cents (\$548,087.41).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-483

11B. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to authorize payment of Warrant 03-21, Fund #301, Beverly Road Construction in the amount of Three Hundred, Twenty Six Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$326.50).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Prybyla, Wadsworth. Nays - Miller, Romak. Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Romak to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 10, 2003.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: December 4, 2004



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